THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES A.JD PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTR/ OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. CHI-DAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Appropriate steps hava been teken in this regard.

(c) A police patrolling par.;,- was attacked by some terrorise with remote etontrol bombs i.i M$_t$>jitha near Amritsar. Two PHG jawans were killed and one Asstt. Sub-Inspe-tov and two PHG jawans were injured. One police jeep was also damaged.

Counter-trade with Bofors

2407. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the counter-tra J$_e$ with Bofors was discussed at a$_n$ early stage of the contract, so as to know from different parties as t$_0$ who offered the best package to India, or it was discussed at a very late stage when th$_e$ negotiations for the contract had been practically completed; and

, (b) if discussed at $_a$ late stage, what are the reasons for which all possible other parties were not expired at an early stage so as to hsve th$_e$ best Dackage in India's interest and what have been the consequences of such an exploration ha /ing not been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN, THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE? (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Counter-trad$_e$ package was sought immediately on commencement of technical and commercial - nagotiation in December, 19^5 with the two short listed firms. The counter-trade package, considered better was aceepted.

Malpractices by Non-resident Indians ln collusion with Banks

2408. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased t$_0$ state:

(a) whether Government';, attention has been drawn to a renort published in the Indian Express dated the 14th January, 1989 stating that many leading international banks and also, overseas branches of soma of the Government owned Indian banks in collusion with some 'syndicates' of powerful non-resident Indians, are pocketing and sharing around Rs. 130 crore every year fro-n th-j Government offel|Bd 1.5 to 2 percent higher interest over the rate prevailing in th$_e$ international market under the two schemes; i.e. Foreign Currency Non-Resident Deposits and Non-Resident Rupee Account;

(b) if so, what are the facts ip this regard and steps taken to stop this differential interest out-flow through the above mentioned collusiiir, and

(c) whether about 80 percent of the funds in these schemes are held by a few high-value accounts, which can put Government to ransom by sudden with-drawals; if so, what precautionary steps hav$_e$ been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1985, som$_e$ irregularities i$_n$ this regard were brought to the notice of the Reserve Bank of Tndia. Accordingly RBI have already issued instructions to all Indian banks having foreign branches and foreign banks operating in India i$_n$ thi$_s$ regard.